

February 12, 2003

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20544

RE: CC Docket No. 01-338, Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Building Industry Association (BIA) is comprised of 1400 member companies in the San Diego community, and as the group's President, I know that our members will be concerned about a critical telecommunications issue facing the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). I'm writing to encourage you and the FCC to support the elimination of the current unbundling regulations that have hurt the telecommunications industry and the high tech manufacturing sector.

As evidenced by the more than half-a-million jobs lost, the badly damaged telecommunications and high tech industries need a lifeboat. The regulations imposed by the FCC are a significant factor on the industry during this economic downturn. I have seen the impact of these regulations firsthand, and it is distressing that the regulations still exist in this form. This commission has a unique opportunity to correct those burdensome regulations, thereby stimulating the economy and the telecom and high tech industries.

I believe that the FCC should eliminate the unbundled network element platform (UNE-P) regulations, which have devastated investment and growth. The FCC should focus its attention and efforts towards establishing a nationwide framework governing the telecom industry that encourages investment in infrastructure and creates an environment that allows for long-term, sustainable competition.

Please consider that these changes will benefit consumers and businesses alike. Thank you in advance for your understanding of this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Kent Aden
Executive Vice President
The Otay Ranch Company

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Copps